

PASTORAL CONCERNS

ACA: Annual Catholic Appeal

Reminder letters were sent from the Diocesan Office in Savannah to all Family Units who have not as yet honored their pledge for the Annual Catholic Appeal 2022. Please do what you can at this time, so that we can meet our **Goal of \$14,605**. A brochure is printed in the Fall tabulating the entire Diocesan Churches with the final total. We would like to see St. Benedict the Moor listed in that printout as making our GOAL for the 2022 Appeal. Thanking everyone in advance for your kindness and generosity.

Death in the Family

Sisters and brothers, on Thursday, June 2nd I will be leaving for the Funeral of my cousin, +Richard Nejfelt who died in Niantic, Connecticut. A Christian Wake Service will be held that evening from 4pm-6pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Richie on Friday, June 3rd at St. Agnes Church in Niantic. Richie was totally involved in his parish of St. Agnes as a lector, Catechist, Eucharist Minister, Altar Server and a member of the Resurrection Choir Singers. He was also a brother-in-law to my sister, Joann and brother to her late husband Tommy.

May Richard enjoy eternal life and beatitude in the Kingdom of the Father. Eternal rest, grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. AMEN.

Litany of Peace

As we pray for our sisters and brothers in the Ukraine, Texas, California and all victims of violent and senseless death.

Let us pray to Jesus Christ that we may be set free from the chains of violence and war, and that a new and lasting peace will abide in our world.

*Jesus the Christ, by your cross and Resurrection...**deliver us!***

*By your nonviolence and love...**deliver us!***

*By your witness to truth...**deliver us!***

By your passion and death!

By your victory over the grave!@

*From the desire for power...**deliver us!***

From the conspiracy of silence...

From the negation of life...

From the celebration of killing...

From the slaughter of the innocent...

From the extermination of the weak...

From the nightmare of hunger...

From the politics of terror...

From a false peace...

From relying on weapons....

From the spiral of armaments...

From plundering the resources of the Earth...

From the despair of this age...

From global suicide...

By the light of your Gospel...give us peace

By the Good News for the poor...

By your healing and wounds...

By Faith in your Word...

By a hunger and thirst for justice...

By the coming of your reign...

By the outpouring of the Spirit...

By reconciliation of enemies...

By gentleness and non-violence...

By truth which sets us free...

By prophecy and witness...

By persecution because of your Name...

By the power of your love...

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant us peace!*

And may Almighty God have mercy on us, Forgive us our sins, End the scourge of war and violence in our world, And bring us all to life everlasting. Amen

Stewardship

Weekly Finance Report: May 22, 2022

Offertory: \$2183.00 (online \$255.00)

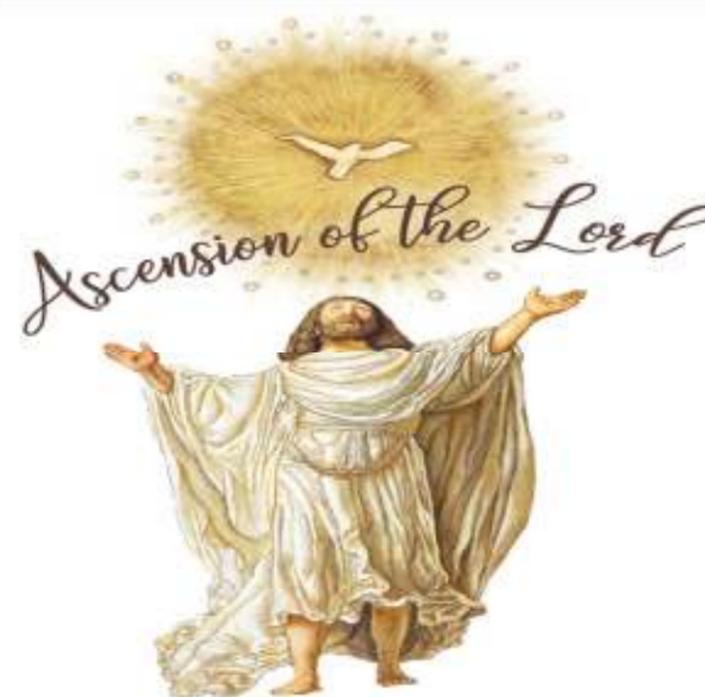
Building Fund: (online \$25.00)

Utilities: (online \$50.00)

Church Repair: \$140.00

Our stewardship is an act of thanksgiving for everything we have and are. It is an act of personal response to our Baptismal call: to live in a faith community committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and committed to serve each other's needs.

St. Benedict the Moor Church



Our Mission

St. Benedict the Moor is a Catholic Christian Community that celebrates its African-American heritage and welcomes cultural diversity. Join us at the Table of the Eucharist as sisters and brothers in the Lord. We are committed to grow and diversify the Church through the new evangelization, family, catechesis, young adult ministry and outreach to the poor. In the spirit of the prophet Joshua, we can say:

"As for me and my household; we will serve the Lord."

May 29, 2022

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

*"God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord."*

St Benedict the Moor Parish

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am

Daily Masses: Mon.,Wed.,Fri. 12:00

Tues.,Thurs. 11:00am

Saturday: 9 am

Holy Days of Obligation:

Mass: 12 noon & 6:30 pm

(Exceptions will be posted)

Sacrament of Penance: Divine Mercy

Room Saturday 9:30am

or by Appointment

Emergencies:

call Fr.Noel: 410-818-8149

Office: 706- 323-8300

Communications

Address: St. Benedict the Moor

2935 9th Street

Columbus, Georgia 31906

Pastor

Fr. Noel Danielewicz, OFM Conv.

tau1226@gmail.com

410-818-8149

Staff

Administrative Assistant

Deborah Thompson

Director of Religious Education

Gail Buffong

706-536-8468

Director of Outreach

Beverly Casimier

Music Ministry

Mary Beth Kozee/Joe Saulsbury

Office Hours:

Pastor: Monday-Friday 10-11:30 am

1:00-3:00 pm

Secretary: Monday-Tuesday 10-2 pm

Wednesday-Thursday 10-4 pm

E-mail Address

stbenedict07@knology.net

Phone: 706- 323-8300

Fax: 706- 324-2641

Website

stbenedictthemoorcolumbus.org

Church

2930 Thomas Street

Columbus, GA 31906

Community Hall/Office

2935 9th St.

Columbus GA 31906

Solemnity of the Ascension

Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

When you hear the word Ascension, what comes to mind? For me, it reminds me of “the long good—bye.” Take a few moments and recall your family saying “good-bye” to guests after a Thanksgiving Dinner or a Christmas or Easter gathering.

Usually, it begins with the little children saying good—bye to the elders. Then the conversation shifts and continues and we resume our “good-byes”...at the door....walking someone out to their car....Imagine, what it was like for Jesus and the Apostles and disciples over the 40 day stretch of Easter.

Ascension marks the 40th day after Easter as Jesus reminds his followers of the mission of being Church. As He calls us “**to go and teach all people my Gospel, I am with you always until the end of the world.**” The question that the angels ask the disciples—why look to the heavens? The reality—check, we might still have our heads in the clouds...standing and staring. Ascension places us in the posture of prayerful waiting on God and the Holy Spirit. Like the early Christian Community, they returned to the Cenacle Room of the Last Supper and waited in prayer and praise for the Holy Spirit.

Jesus promises and delivers what He says He will do. Amen! He promises to be with us always....He promises to send the Holy Spirit upon us, who will inspire and gift us to minister in His Name. As we wait upon the Holy Spirit at Pentecost in a week’s time, Jesus reminds us that **we will not be alone!**

The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in His Name will teach us all things and bring to our collective remembrance all that He said and taught. The Paraclete will always be with us, so that we might be sustained in **our Mission to take the Gospel to the world!**

As a CHURCH, we cannot remain stagnant, but together with the participation of each of the baptized, we are called to act as a community on the way, *encouraging and welcoming* the light of the Holy Spirit, who alone can make all things new!

The Spirit of the Lord, guides and guards the Church, as she educates us to the *logic of the Gospel...welcoming love and forgiveness.* Beginning with ourselves ask the question, *what does it mean “to believe in the Ascension of the Lord into Heaven?”* We can find the answer in the Creed that we pray every Sunday: “*He is ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father.*”

The Lord Jesus is ascended into heaven means: *that He is sitting at the right hand of God the Father Almighty!*” He has also entered into the world of God that had made Him the Lord of everything, as St. Paul describes in the second reading. When we say that Jesus has gone to heaven...what does He mean?

Pope Francis offers this clear explanation. “For to go to heaven or go to Paradise...**means to go to be with Christ.** Our true sky: is the resurrected Christ with whom we will unite after the Resurrection of the Body.

Sisters and brothers, **the ASCENSION of the Lord** does not point to Jesus’ absence, but tells us that HE is alive in our midst in a new way. He is now in the “Lordship of God,” as we celebrate the fact that Paradise opens its doors to humanity with the solemn and joyful entrance of Christ into heaven at the right hand of the Father.

For the Christian, “**the SKY of the Christian Life**” is ultimately a **PERSON**, it is the Risen Christ to whom we are incorporated and with whom we are called to be ONE body. So what must we do? Between now and next Sunday, **the Solemnity of Pentecost**, let us spend our time in prayerful waiting and reflection on being OPEN to the SPIRIT of the Living God.

Church, how do you plan to carry Christ’s *benediction* to your sisters and brothers? Begin by signing yourself and your family with the HOLY WATER that marks your Baptism. We are claimed...set aside for God....as adopted sons and daughters of the Father; as sister and brothers to one another; and as living Temples of the Holy Spirit.

My brothers and sisters, **the GOSPEL** is inviting each one of us as a “Believing--Church: to welcome the Risen Lord into our hearts and into our lives as God’s people. May we pray for the Spirit of holy boldness to open ourselves **to transformative change!**

This is what St. John speaks of in his vision of the Holy City, Jerusalem. It is a vision That JESUS offers us through prophetic voices down through the ages. The call to Love in a time of indifference, to hope in a time of despair! to work for justice in a time of grave injustice, and to reverence God ‘s gift of LIFE in a culture of death.

Church, from the words of St. Francis—”**while we have TIME, let us do good, for up until now we have done but little.**” Let us open our hearts to be seared by the FIRE of the Spirit!

Waiting with you in prayer,

Friar Noel



Altar Flowers are donated in memory of
Cheryl Jackson
on the anniversary of her birth
by Barbara Lawrence

Worship and Pastoral Schedule

- Sunday, May 29, 2022** 10:30 a.m.
Ascension of the Lord
+Richard Nejfelt (cousin)
St. Benedict the Moor Church--Family
- Monday, May 30, 2022** 12 Noon
For living and deceased Veterans
- Tuesday, May 31, 2022** 11:00 a.m.
The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022** 12 Noon
Outreach Ministry
- Thursday, June 2, 2022** 11:00 a.m.
Sts. Marcellino and Peter, martyrs
Service of Word and Communion
- Friday, June 3, 2022** 12 Noon
Outreach Ministry
- Saturday, June 4, 2022** 9:00 a.m.
St. Charles Lwanga and 21 Companion Martyrs
Service of Word and Communion
- Sacrament of Penance/cancelled** 9:30 a.m.



In Our Prayers

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Fr. Noel Danielewicz | Donald Julien |
| Valentina Nejfelt | Earl King |
| Helen Bell | Elvia King |
| Beverly Casimier | Veronica Mary Koleser |
| Amanda Cole | Lenny Korona |
| Mik Cole | Mittie Lewis |
| Robert Cole | Rishi Mahabir |
| LaKeith Collier | Brenda Malone |
| Paul Danielewicz | Delores McLeod |
| Robert Dozier | Ruben Meinhofer & Fam. |
| Carl English | Burnett Nelson |
| James Fisher | Denvey Nelson |
| Ollie Fisher | Major Nettles |
| Carlos Gaslin | Cordell Parker |
| Yvonne Gilberti | Gwendolyn Parker |
| Elizabeth Grey | Debra Pough |
| Sarah Hicks | Evelyn Pough |
| Ginnette Hughes | Joe Ravalese |
| Lillian Humber | Joan Rogala |
| Cecelia Hyams | Elaine Shorty |
| Sabrina Jackson | Shawn Siegman |
| Clarence Johnson | Lydia Sliva |
| Albertine Jones | Madeline Smith |
| Brittany Jones | Friar Jude Surowiec |
| Cecil Jones | Emi Talbert |
| | Dorothy Washington |



Catholic Communication Campaign

Next week our special collection supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign engages and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Savannah to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc.